Welcome back to what promises to be another year of great achievement. Our motto “Care & Commitment” underpins all we do and reflects the values that guide and focus all of our plans and activities. We encourage “care & commitment” in all things involving students, staff, parents and the community. My door is always open to anyone wishing to discuss any issues, concerns or new ideas. Complaint forms are available at reception and we welcome their use. At Menai we seek constructive solutions with all the energy and resources available to us.

In the interests of maintaining a harmonious and productive school I want to be sure that everyone is aware of the school’s agreed “discipline code”. Every student received a detailed copy of our welfare and discipline policy last week. This represents cooperatively developed decisions about the school’s beliefs and values, the discipline code, the school merit scheme and other supports available at school. At a full school assembly, all staff and students will go through the discipline code. This code applies to everybody and outlines each individual’s responsibilities as a student:

- within a large school;
- in their classroom;
- while in the playground;
- while travelling to and from school by bus, bike, on foot or as a student driver;
- accessing a large computer network.

Our code is based on the Department of Education’s core rules which include:

- Attend every school day, be in class on time and prepared to learn.
- Maintain neat appearance, including adherence to the school’s uniform policy.
- Behave safely, considerately and responsibly including when travelling to and from school.
- Show respect at all times for teachers, other school staff and helpers, including following class rules, speaking courteously and cooperating with instructions and learning activities.
- Treat one another with dignity and respect.
- Care for property belonging to themselves, the school and others.
- Behaviour that infringes on the safety of others, such as harassment, bullying and illegal or anti-social behaviour of any kind, will not be tolerated. In particular we will target cyber bullying and harassment which is very damaging to others.

In particular it outlines a range of zero tolerance areas supported by suspension including:

- possession of drugs, alcohol and weapons;
- being under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- smoking after being warned;
- offensive behaviour and violence; and
- continual disobedience or disruption.

Please note that mobile phones are banned at Menai High School. Mobile phones cause enormous problems in a school setting. If students need them after school they will be secured in the office and returned at the end of the day.

In a large school individuals can only enjoy their right to a pleasant, safe, secure and productive learning environment if each individual exercises their responsibility to comply with the discipline code. We look forward to your support through family discussion and by confirming your recognition and acceptance of the code by signing the sheet attached (below the canteen list) and returning it to the Roll Teacher. I am available to discuss any compliance or acceptance issues related to the code. In the absence of parents and/or students raising issues of concern, compliance with the code is compulsory for everyone.

This is also an opportune time to collect parent and student permission to be involved in a range of other activities and services. When appropriate we would like to be able to publish student work, photos, and names in a variety of places including our newsletter, our website, our notice board and newspapers. We are also maintaining our SMS and/or email attendance monitoring system. This provides parents with immediate advice about their child's attendance and punctuality as well as providing a very user friendly parent note system. This has been found to be highly successful in ensuring the regular and punctual attendance which best supports student learning. Your support in signing off on these systems will provide great opportunities for your children.

E McNALLY

Deputy Principal’s Message

Welcome back for another great year of learning success at Menai High. Last year's Year 12 certainly demonstrated learning success in the HSC which was crowned by our dux, Jessica Durand, with an incredible ATAR of 99.35. Also, can you believe it, some universities, in recognition of the time away from study that Jess required to pursue her elite sporting career, had granted her 5 bonus ATAR points prior to the results being released! Well done, Jess. We are all very proud of you and the many other students who did their very best at the HSC.

A big reminder about our 25th Anniversary Celebration. Please, please, PLEASE spread the word about this.

When: March 8 at 6:30pm.
Where: Revesby Workers Club
How much: $50 which includes a gourmet finger food meal and live entertainment.

TICKETS SALES FINISH ON FEBRUARY 27.
NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.

Tickets can be purchased electronically at www.facebook.com/MHS25th or call the school on 95437000.

R LINDSAY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>IMPORTANT DATES &amp; COMING EVENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11/2</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Monday 18/2</td>
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<td>School Council Meeting</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13/2</td>
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<td>Swimming Carnival Revesby Pool</td>
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<td>Friday 22/2</td>
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<td>Year 7 Orientation Dinner</td>
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It’s great to see students settle into the new school year so quickly and I hope it is a very successful year for all students. Should any students or parents have concerns or problems, then feel free to contact any of the following:

Deputy Principal, Welfare—Mr R Lindsay
Year Advisers -
Year 7 Ms C Hamilton/Mr S El Masri
Year 8 Mrs L Ferraro/Mr M Kelly
Year 9 Mrs N Wolf/Miss C Bessell
Year 10 Mrs R Hatzi/Mr L Meagher
Year 11 Mr R Loxley/Ms S Bourke
Year 12 Mrs J Brown/Ms N Rozga
Counsellor—Mrs J Hackett
Chaplain—Mrs E Ramsay
Head Teacher, Welfare—Mrs K Mundy

We continue to offer welfare programs in Peer Mediation, where selected students are trained to act as mediators to resolve minor student conflict; our Student Initiated Merit Scheme rewards students for their diligence and good attitude and our Pastoral Care program assists Year 7 students to adjust to high school.

As well, many students will have the opportunity to go away on school camps this year. Year 7 will have a fantastic camp in March which will be an exciting and enjoyable time for them and school camps this year. Year 7 will have a fantastic camp in March which will be an exciting and enjoyable time for them and will hopefully see the start of many new friendships.

I am looking forward to an exciting year and encourage students to work hard to achieve their goals.

K Mundy
Head Teacher, Welfare

2013 Swimming Carnival
The 2013 Menai High School Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday 13th February at Revesby Pool. The Swimming Carnival is compulsory for all students. Buses will leave from school at 8.46am and will cost $10 which will include transport and pool entry. Students who make their own way to the carnival must be there by 9am and will pay $5 pool entry.

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students who have been elected Sports House Captains for 2013 -
Bradman House— Pierce Coles-Sinclair/Alyssa Clark
Freeman House— Jack Johnstone/Jasmin Grey
Lewis House— Jacob Newton/Ashley Power
Hewitt House— Liam Sparke/Taylah Recchi

M Robinson, Sports Organiser

Kokoda Track Foundation— PLEASE HELP
Our school has decided to support a program run by the Kokoda Track Foundation to improve the dental health of children living in villages along the Kokoda Track.
We need 3000 children’s toothbrushes by Thursday 6th February. In 2012 a dental health study identified “pain from teeth” as the number one health problem, the others include malaria, tuberculosis and pneumonia. 63% of children and 95% of adults have decayed teeth.
We are asking you to purchase a toothbrush suitable for a child between the ages of 4 and 12 years. Place your brush in one of the collection boxes in the library or front office no later than Thursday 6th February.
We encourage you to participate in this very important program and thank you on behalf of the school.

C Nelson, Library

SPORT AT MENAI HIGH SCHOOL
• Sport is on every Thursday from 12:15pm – 2:30pm.
• Students are required to wear full sports uniform.
• Students are to have their name marked off at the start of sport and at the end of sport by their teacher.
• Buses that are required for sport depart from the front of the school immediately after period 4.
• Sport is compulsory for all students. If a student is injured, or is unable to participate, they are to see Mr Robinson or Mr Phease.
• Grade Sport is played against other high schools in the Port Hacking Zone.
• Year 11 are to complete a Sport Log Book each term.

Menai High School is a member of the Sydney East Sports Association. Regional and Zone sport information can be found on their website: www.sports.det.nsw.edu.au and www.sessazones.com

Students who are interested in trialling for a Regional School Sports team can check the Sydney East website for trial dates and information.

Important Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>School Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>13/2/13</td>
<td>Zone X-Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>4/3/13</td>
<td>Zone Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>11/3/13</td>
<td>Regional X-Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>4/4 to 6/4/13</td>
<td>State X-Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>26/3/13</td>
<td>Regional Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>School X-Country</td>
<td>3/5/13</td>
<td>State Athletics</td>
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Please note that due to the temporary closure of the Ridge Athletics Track, the School Athletics Carnival will be held on the 26th March at Sylvania Track.

Mr Robinson and Mr Phease are the Sports Organisers and can be found in the PE Staffroom if there are any queries or problems.

M Robinson, Sports Organiser

P&C and School Council
Our AGM’s for P&C and School Council are to be held in February. P&C Meeting is on Monday 11th February at 7.00pm and School Council is on Monday 18th February. We encourage all parents to join our P&C this year to benefit from the close contact with the school. P&C meetings are held in the school library.

Expression of Interest—Parent Member: Please contact the Principal if interested. (Council meets once each month, during term, for 1 hour).

P Constance

Year 7 Orientation Dinner
Welcome all to another year at Menai High. The annual Year 7 Orientation Dinner will be held on Friday 22nd February in our school auditorium. Tickets will go on sale soon! I would like to ask for some volunteers to help set up for the evening and also to help through the night selling raffle tickets. Any time is great! If you can help please email bessyp@hotmail.com

Robynne Challinor, P&C President